

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KHARTO 01903 071238Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03 EB-07 MC-02
ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 /081 W
-----071252Z 096990 /45

R 071150Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4564

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

COMIDEASTFOR

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 1903

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, MASS, PFOR, US, SU, SA

SUBJECT: US-SUDAN MILITARY RELATIONS

REF: (A) COMIDEASTFOR 042010Z JUN 77 (NOTAL),

(B) KHARTOUM 1863 (NOTAL).

1. IN MEETING JUNE 6 WITH MINISTER PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS
DR. BAHA AL-DIN IDRIS, I DISCUSSED NEW US ARMS SALES
POLICY AND CONVEYED GIST OF SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS RE
SUDAN. ALSO TOLD HIM OF RECENT REMARKS MADE BY
DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN RE US ATTITUDE TOWARD ARMS SALES
TO SUDAN. IN ADDITION BRIEFED HIM ON C-130 SITE
SURVEY TEAM VISIT SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK AND SMALL-SCALE
NAVAL EXERCISE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY BETWEEN COMIDEASTFOR
UNIT AND SUDAN NAVY AT PORT SUDAN (REF A). IDRIS WAS
GENERALLY PLEASED BY USG POSTURE TOWARD SUDAN, AND
HE WAS SO EXCITED REGARDING NAVAL EXERCISE HE REACHED
FOR PHONE TO INFORM FIRST VICE PRESIDENT BAGHIR
WHO ACTING HEAD OF STATE IN ABSENCE NIMEIRI.
FYI LINE WAS BUSY. END FYI.

2. WE DISCUSSED FINANCING FOR SUDANESE ARMS PURCHASES,

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AND IDRIS SUGGESTED WE QUOTE HINT UNQUOTE TO SAUDIS THAT
THEIR ASSISTANCE NEEDED. I POINTED OUT THAT UNTIL NOW
WHenever ANY TRILATERAL DEAL WAS BEING DISCUSSED WE WERE
SPECIFICALLY ADVISED BY SUDANESE, E.G., FORMER FINMIN BIHEIRY,
NOT RPT NOT TO APPROACH OTHERS. RATHER, SUDANESE PREFERRED
DISCUSS SUCH SENSITIVE SUBJECTS THEMSELVES DIRECTLY WITH
SAUDIS, KUWAITIS OR OTHERS. THEREFORE, US HAD NOT RPT NOT

TAKEN INITIATIVE IN ATTEMPTING SECURE SAUDI FINANCING FOR SUDANESE MILITARY PURCHASES, AND I THOUGHT THIS SHOULD REMAIN WAY MATTER WAS HANDLED. IDRIS LISTENED AND THEN ESSENTIALLY REITERATED HIS SUGGESTION THAT USG FIND WAY TO LET SAUDIS KNOW HOW BADLY THEIR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED.

5. COMMENT: ASSUME WE WOULD NOT RPT NOT WANT TO GET INTO POSITION OF ASKING SAUDIS TO FINANCE SUDANESE PURCHASES. WITHOUT ATTEMPTING PLEAD SUDANGOV'S CASE WITH SAUDIS, HOWEVER, IT MAY BE DESIRABLE DISCUSS WHAT SAUDIS INTEND DO FOR SUDANESE IN CONTEXT GENERAL US-SAUDI CONSULTATIONS ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS. DEPARTMENT'S ATTITUDE MAY BE AFFECTED BY WHATEVER MAY HAVE BEEN SAID ON SUBJECT DURING FAHD'S RECENT VISIT.
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Message Attributes

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